

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2840

To establish a Commission on the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase  
and the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 10, 2000

Mr. BREAUX introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred  
to the Committee on Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To establish a Commission on the Bicentennial of the  
Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Louisiana Purchase  
5       and Lewis and Clark Expedition Bicentennial Commission  
6       Act”.

7       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8       Congress finds that—

9               (1) the bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase  
10       occurs in 2003, 200 years after the United States,

1 under the leadership of President Thomas Jefferson  
2 and after due consideration and approval by Con-  
3 gress, paid \$15,000,000 to France to acquire the  
4 vast area in the western half of the Mississippi River  
5 basin;

6 (2) the Louisiana Purchase was the largest  
7 peaceful land transaction in history and virtually  
8 doubled the size of the United States;

9 (3) the Louisiana Purchase opened the heart of  
10 the North American continent for exploration, settle-  
11 ment, and achievement, as exemplified by the Lewis  
12 and Clark Expedition of 1803 to 1806, which se-  
13 cured through heroic efforts the first documentation  
14 of the inhabitants, riches, and grandeur of this new  
15 territory of the United States;

16 (4) in the wake of the Louisiana Purchase and  
17 Lewis and Clark Expedition, immigrants from  
18 around the world came to the American frontier,  
19 which became emblematic of the search for political,  
20 economic, and spiritual freedom; and

21 (5) commemoration of the Louisiana Purchase  
22 and the opening of the West will—

23 (A) enhance public understanding of the  
24 impact of westward expansion on American so-  
25 ciety; and

1 (B) provide lessons for democratic govern-  
2 ance in our own time.

3 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION OF COMMIS-**  
4 **SION.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a com-  
6 mission to be known as the “Louisiana Purchase and  
7 Lewis and Clark Expedition Bicentennial Commission”  
8 (referred to in this Act as the “Commission”) to encour-  
9 age, plan, coordinate, and conduct the commemoration of  
10 the 200th anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase and the  
11 Lewis and Clark Expedition.

12 (b) COMPOSITION.—The Commission shall be com-  
13 posed of 24 members, who shall be appointed not later  
14 than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, as  
15 follows:

16 (1) 8 members appointed by the President on  
17 the recommendation of the majority leader of the  
18 Senate, in consultation with the minority leader of  
19 the Senate.

20 (2) 8 members appointed by the President on  
21 recommendation of the Speaker of the House of  
22 Representatives, in consultation with the minority  
23 leader of the House of Representatives.

24 (3) 8 members appointed by the President.

25 (c) QUALIFICATIONS.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission members  
2       shall be chosen from among individuals who have  
3       demonstrated scholarship, a strong sense of public  
4       service, expertise in relevant professions, and abili-  
5       ties likely to contribute to the fulfillment of the du-  
6       ties of the Commission.

7           (2) COMPOSITION.—The members of the  
8       Commission—

9                   (A) shall be broadly representative of the  
10           people of the United States; and

11                   (B) shall not otherwise be officers or em-  
12           ployees of the United States.

13       (d) TERMS.—Members of the Commission shall be  
14       appointed for the life of the Commission.

15       (e) INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION.—The President  
16       is authorized and requested to invite the Governments of  
17       Canada, France, Great Britain, Mexico, and Spain each  
18       to appoint, not later than 90 days after the date of the  
19       enactment of this Act, 1 individual to serve as a nonvoting  
20       participant in the activities of the Commission.

21       (f) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON.—

22           (1) CHAIRPERSON.—The President shall des-  
23       ignate 1 of the members to be Chairperson.

1           (2) VICE-CHAIRPERSON.—The Commission  
2       shall elect a Vice-Chairperson from among its mem-  
3       bers.

4       (g) QUORUM.—A quorum shall consist of 13 mem-  
5       bers of the Commission, but a lesser number may conduct  
6       meetings.

7       (h) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Commission shall  
8       be filled in the same manner in which the original appoint-  
9       ment was made.

10       (i) COMPENSATION.—The members of the Commis-  
11       sion shall serve without compensation, but each member  
12       shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other nec-  
13       essary expenses incurred in the performance of Commis-  
14       sion duties.

15   **SEC. 4. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.**

16       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall—

17           (1) plan and develop activities appropriate to  
18       commemorate the bicentennial of the Louisiana Pur-  
19       chase and the Lewis and Clark Expedition, including  
20       a limited number of projects to be carried out by the  
21       Federal Government, seeking to harmonize and bal-  
22       ance the important goals of ceremony and celebra-  
23       tion with the equally important goals of scholarship  
24       and education;

1           (2) consult with and encourage Federal agen-  
2           cies, State and local governments, Indian tribes, for-  
3           eign governments, and private organizations to orga-  
4           nize and participate in bicentennial activities com-  
5           memorating or examining—

6                   (A) the history of the Louisiana Territory;

7                   (B) the negotiation of the Louisiana Pur-  
8           chase;

9                   (C) the Lewis and Clark Expedition; and

10                  (D) the characteristics of the frontier  
11           movement and the westward expansion of the  
12           United States and their influences on world cul-  
13           ture; and

14           (3) coordinate throughout the United States  
15           and internationally, activities related to the history  
16           and influence of the Louisiana Purchase and the  
17           Lewis and Clark Expedition.

18           (b) FEDERAL AGENCY COOPERATION.—The head of  
19           each Federal agency shall cooperate with the Commission  
20           in encouraging, coordinating, planning, and conducting  
21           appropriate commemorative activities.

22   **SEC. 5. POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.**

23           (a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may provide  
24           for—

1           (1) the preparation, exhibition, dissemination,  
2           and sale of historical, commemorative, and informa-  
3           tional materials and objects that contribute to public  
4           awareness of, and interest in, the bicentennial of the  
5           Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark Expe-  
6           dition, except that any commemorative coins, med-  
7           als, or postage stamps recommended to be issued by  
8           the United States shall be sold only by an agency of  
9           the United States;

10          (2) competitions and awards for historical,  
11          scholarly, artistic, literary, musical, and other works,  
12          programs, and projects relating to the bicentennial  
13          of the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark  
14          Expedition;

15          (3) a bicentennial calendar or register of pro-  
16          grams and projects;

17          (4) a central clearinghouse for information and  
18          coordination regarding dates, events, places, docu-  
19          ments, artifacts, and personalities of historical and  
20          commemorative significance relating to the bicenten-  
21          nial of the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and  
22          Clark Expedition; and

23          (5) the design and designation of logos, sym-  
24          bols, or marks for use in connection with the com-  
25          memoration of the bicentennial of the Louisiana

1 Purchase and Lewis and Clark Expedition, on the  
 2 condition that the Commission may not sell, lease, or  
 3 otherwise grant to any person the right to use any  
 4 such logo, symbol, or mark in connection with the  
 5 production or manufacture of any commercial goods,  
 6 or as part of an advertisement promoting any com-  
 7 mercial goods or services.

8 (b) DONATIONS.—The Commission may solicit, ac-  
 9 cept, use, and dispose of donations of money, property,  
 10 or personal services.

11 (c) PRESERVATION.—All books, manuscripts, printed  
 12 matter, memorabilia, relics, and other materials or prop-  
 13 erty relating to the time period of the Louisiana Purchase  
 14 and the Lewis and Clark Expedition that are donated to  
 15 the Commission may be deposited for preservation in Na-  
 16 tional, State, or local libraries, museums, or other agen-  
 17 cies.

18 **SEC. 6. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS AND POWERS.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—

20 (1) APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.—The Chair-  
 21 person, with the advice of the Commission, shall ap-  
 22 point, without regard to the provisions of title 5,  
 23 United States Code, governing appointments in the  
 24 competitive service—



1 (A) a Director, who may be compensated  
 2 at a rate not to exceed the rate of basic pay  
 3 payable for level IV of the Executive Schedule  
 4 established under section 5315 of that title; and

5 (B) a Deputy Director, who may be com-  
 6 pensated at a rate not to exceed the rate of  
 7 basic pay payable for level V of the Executive  
 8 Schedule established under section 5316 of that  
 9 title.

10 (2) DELEGATION TO DIRECTOR.—The Commis-  
 11 sion may delegate such powers and duties to the Di-  
 12 rector as may be necessary for the efficient oper-  
 13 ation and management of the Commission.

14 (b) GENERAL POWERS.—Subject to regulations pro-  
 15 mulgated by the Commission, the Commission may—

16 (1) appoint and fix the compensation of such  
 17 additional personnel as the Commission considers  
 18 necessary, not to exceed 20 staff members, without  
 19 regard to the provisions of title 5, United States  
 20 Code, governing appointments in the competitive  
 21 service, and without regard to chapter 51 and sub-  
 22 chapter III of chapter 53 of that title relating to  
 23 classification and General Schedule pay rates, but at  
 24 rates not in excess of the maximum rate for grade

1       GS-15 of the General Schedule under section 5332  
2       of that title;

3           (2) appoint such advisory committees as the  
4       Commission considers necessary; and

5           (3) procure supplies, services, and property,  
6       make contracts, and expend funds appropriated, do-  
7       nated, or received to carry out the contracts.

8       (c) STAFF DETAILED FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—  
9       On request of the Commission, the head of any Federal  
10      agency may detail any of the personnel of the agency to  
11      the Commission to assist the Commission in carrying out  
12      the duties of the Commission under this Act.

13      (d) STAFF PAID FROM DONATED FUNDS.—The  
14      Commission may appoint and fix the pay of additional per-  
15      sonnel to be paid out of private donations.

16      (e) PRINCIPAL OFFICE.—The principal office of the  
17      Commission shall be in St. Louis, Missouri.

18   **SEC. 7. REPORTS.**

19      (a) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than 60 days after  
20      the end of a fiscal year, the Commission shall submit to  
21      the President and Congress a report that—

22           (1) describes the activities of the Commission  
23      during the fiscal year; and

24           (2) states—

1 (A) the amount of expenditures made by  
2 the Commission during the fiscal year;

3 (B) for each donation received by the Com-  
4 mission during the fiscal year—

5 (i) the amount of the donation; and

6 (ii) the name of the person that made  
7 the donation.

8 (b) COMPREHENSIVE REPORT.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after  
10 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission  
11 shall submit to the President and Congress a report  
12 incorporating specific recommendations for the com-  
13 memoration of the bicentennial of the Louisiana  
14 Purchase and Lewis and Clark Expedition and re-  
15 lated events.

16 (2) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report under  
17 paragraph (1)—

18 (A) shall include recommendations for the  
19 allocation of financial and administrative re-  
20 sponsibility among the public and private au-  
21 thorities and organizations recommended for  
22 participation by the Commission; and

23 (B) may recommend activities such as—

24 (i) the production, publication, and  
25 distribution of books, pamphlets, films,

1 electronic publications, and other edu-  
 2 cational materials focusing on the history  
 3 and impact of the Louisiana Purchase on  
 4 the United States and the world;

5 (ii) bibliographical and documentary  
 6 projects, publications, and electronic re-  
 7 sources;

8 (iii) conferences, convocations, lec-  
 9 tures, seminars, and other programs;

10 (iv) the development of programs by  
 11 and for libraries, museums, parks, and his-  
 12 toric sites, including national and inter-  
 13 national traveling exhibitions;

14 (v) ceremonies and celebrations com-  
 15 memorating specific events;

16 (vi) the production, distribution, and  
 17 performance of artistic works, and of pro-  
 18 grams and activities, focusing on the na-  
 19 tional and international significance of the  
 20 Louisiana Purchase and the westward ex-  
 21 pansion opening the frontier for present  
 22 and future generations; and

23 (vii) the issuance of commemorative  
 24 coins, medals, certificates of recognition,  
 25 and postage stamps.

1       (c) FINAL REPORT.—The Commission shall submit  
2 to the President and Congress a final report not later than  
3 90 days before the termination of the Commission.

4 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

5       (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-  
6 priated to carry out this Act—

7           (1) \$1,000,000 for the first fiscal year for  
8 which appropriations are made; and

9           (2) such sums as are necessary for subsequent  
10 fiscal years until the termination of the Commission.

11       (b) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts appro-  
12 priated under this section for any fiscal year shall remain  
13 available until the termination of the Commission.

14 **SEC. 9. TERMINATION.**

15       The Commission shall terminate on the date that is  
16 8 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

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